

**CLAIMS:**

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method in a data processing system for backing up data, the method comprising:
- responsive to a request to backup data associated with an application, querying a data store containing meta data regarding files associated with the application, wherein the data store includes meta data describing the files accessed by the application;
- 10 receiving a result in response to querying the data store; and  
backing up the files identified in the result to a storage system.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the files are backed up using a standard backup program.
- 15 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the data store is one of a database and a text file.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the data is located on a source data processing system and the storage system is located on a destination data processing system.
- 20 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the data processing system is the source data processing system.
6. The method of claim 4, wherein the data processing system is the destination data processing system.
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7. The method of claim 1, wherein the queuing step, the receiving step, and the backing up step are performed by a backup process.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein the backup process is located on the data processing system.
9. The method of claim 7, wherein the backup process is located on a data processing system associated with the storage system.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the storage system includes at least one of a hard disk drive, a tape drive, and a rewriteable compact disk drive.
11. A method in a data processing system for backing up data, the method comprising:
- receiving a request to back up data associated with an application;
- querying a data store containing data regarding data associated with the application in response to receiving the request, wherein the data store includes meta data describing the files associated with the application;
- receiving a result in response to querying the data store; and
- initiating copying of the files to a backup location.
12. The method of claim 11 further comprising:
- supplying the data to a standard backup program.
13. The method of claim 11, wherein the backup location is a storage device located on the data processing system.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein the backup location is at least one of a hard disk, a floppy disk, a magnetic tape, a rewriteable compact disc, and a memory.

15. The method of claim 11, wherein the backup location is a storage system  
5 connected to the data processing system through a network.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the network includes at least one of a local area network, an intranet, the Internet, a wide area network, and a wireless network.

10 17. A data processing system comprising:  
a bus system;  
a communications unit connected to the bus system;  
a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of  
instructions; and  
15 a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit  
executes the set of instructions to query a data store containing meta data regarding files  
associated with an application in response to a request to backup data associated with the  
application, wherein the data store includes meta data describing the files accessed by the  
application; receive a result in response to querying the data store; and backup the files to  
20 a storage system.

18 The data processing system of claim 17, wherein the files are backed up using a  
standard backup program.

25 19. The data processing system of claim 17, wherein the data store is one of a  
database and a text file.

20. The data processing system of claim 17, wherein the data is located on a source data processing system and the storage system is located on a destination data processing system.

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21. The data processing system of claim 20, wherein the data processing system is the source data processing system.

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22. The data processing system of claim 20, wherein the data processing system is the destination data processing system.

23. The data processing system of claim 17, wherein the storage system includes at least one of a hard disk drive, a tape drive, and a rewriteable compact disk drive.

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24. A data processing system comprising:  
a bus system;  
a communications unit connected to the bus system;  
a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and

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a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to receive a request to back up data associated with an application; query a data store containing data regarding data associated with the application in response to receiving the request, wherein the data store includes meta data describing the files associated with the application; receive a result in response to  
25 querying the data store; and initiate copying of the files to a backup location.

25 The data processing system of claim 24, wherein the processing unit further executes a set of instructions to supply the data to a standard backup program.

26. The data processing system of claim 24, wherein the backup location is a storage  
5 device located on the data processing system.

27. The data processing system of claim 24, wherein the backup location is at least one of a hard disk, a floppy disk, a magnetic tape, a rewriteable compact disc, and a memory.

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28. The data processing system of claim 24, wherein the backup location is a storage system connected to the data processing system through a network.

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29. The data processing system of claim 28, wherein the network includes at least one of a local area network, an intranet, the Internet, a wide area network, and a wireless network.

30. A data processing system for backing up data, the data processing system comprising:

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querying means, responsive to a request to backup data associated with an application, for querying a data store containing meta data regarding files associated with the application, wherein the data store includes meta data describing the files accessed by the application;

receiving means for receiving a result in response to querying the data store; and

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backing up means for backing up the files identified in the result to a storage system.

31. The data processing system of claim 30, wherein the files are backed up using a standard backup program.
- 5 32. The data processing system of claim 30, wherein the data store is one of a database and a text file.
33. The data processing system of claim 30, wherein the data is located on a source data processing system and the storage system is located on a destination data processing system.
- 10 34. The data processing system of claim 33, wherein the data processing system is the source data processing system.
- 15 35. The data processing system of claim 33, wherein the data processing system is the destination data processing system.
36. The data processing system of claim 30, wherein the queuing means, the receiving means, and the backing means are performed by a backup process.
- 20 37. The data processing system of claim 36, wherein the backup process is located on the data processing system.
38. The data processing system of claim 36, wherein the backup process is located on a data processing system associated with the storage system.
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39. The data processing system of claim 30, wherein the storage system includes at least one of a hard disk drive, a tape drive, and a rewriteable compact disk drive.

40. A data processing system for backing up data, the data processing system comprising:

first receiving means for receiving a request to back up data associated with an application;

querying means for querying a data store containing data regarding data associated with the application in response to receiving the request, wherein the data store includes meta data describing the files associated with the application;

second receiving means for receiving a result in response to querying the data store; and

initiating means for initiating copying of the files to a backup location.

41. The data processing system of claim 40 further comprising:

supplying means for supplying the data to a standard backup program.

42. The data processing system of claim 40, wherein the backup location is a storage device located on the data processing system.

43. The data processing system of claim 40, wherein the backup location is at least one of a hard disk, a floppy disk, a magnetic tape, a rewriteable compact disc, and a memory.

44. The data processing system of claim 40, wherein the backup location is a storage system connected to the data processing system through a network.

45. The data processing system of claim 44, wherein the network includes at least one of a local area network, an intranet, the Internet, a wide area network, and a wireless network.

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46. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for backing up data, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions, responsive to a request to backup data associated with an application, for querying a data store containing meta data regarding files associated with the application, wherein the data store includes meta data describing the files accessed by the application;

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second instructions for receiving a result in response to querying the data store;

and

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third instructions for backing up the files identified in the result to a storage system.

47. The computer program product of claim 46, wherein the files are backed up using a standard backup program.

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48. The computer program product of claim 46, wherein the data store is one of a database and a text file.

49. The computer program product of claim 46, wherein the data is located on a source data processing system and the storage system is located on a destination data processing system.

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50. The computer program product of claim 49, wherein the data processing system is the source data processing system.

51. The computer program product of claim 49, wherein the data processing system is the destination data processing system.

52. The computer program product of claim 46, wherein the first instructions, second instructions, and third instructions are performed by a backup process.

53. The computer program product of claim 52, wherein the backup process is located on the data processing system.

54. The computer program product of claim 52, wherein the backup process is located on a data processing system associated with the storage system.

55. The computer program product of claim 46, wherein the storage system includes at least one of a hard disk drive, a tape drive, and a rewriteable compact disk drive.

56. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for backing up data, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for receiving a request to back up data associated with an application;

second instructions for querying a data store containing data regarding data associated with the application in response to receiving the request, wherein the data store includes meta data describing the files associated with the application;

third instructions for receiving a result in response to querying the data store; and  
fourth instructions for copying of the files to a backup location.

57. The computer program product of claim 56 further comprising:  
5 fifth instructions for supplying the data to a standard backup program.

58. The computer program product of claim 56, wherein the backup location is a  
storage device located on the data processing system.

10 59. The computer program product of claim 56, wherein the backup location is at  
least one of a hard disk, a floppy disk, a magnetic tape, a rewriteable compact disc, and a  
memory.

60. The computer program product of claim 56, wherein the backup location is a  
15 storage system connected to the data processing system through a network.

61. The computer program product of claim 60, wherein the network includes at least  
one of a local area network, an intranet, the Internet, a wide area network, and a wireless  
network.